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Attorney's Docket No.: 13909-161001
Client Ref.: 2004P00116US

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, performed by a one or more processing devices device, for use in an electronic learning system that stores information as learning objects, the method comprising:

designating a target learning object as a project object; and

storing version dependency data in the project object, the version dependency data identifying at least a version of a first object that depends directly from upon which the project object directly depends, and a version of a second object that depends indirectly from upon which the project object indirectly depends.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the version of the second first object depends from on the version of the first second object.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein designating comprises storing data in the project object that indicates that the target learning object is the project object.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the target learning object comprises a

portal to other learning objects in the electronic learning system.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the other learning objects define a course

offered via the electronic learning system.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the target learning object comprises a

glossary of a course.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic learning system

comprises a master repository that stores globally-available learning objects and a local

repository that stores locally-available learning objects, and the method further comprises:

identifying learning objects that depend from upon which the project object depends;

moving the project object and learning objects that depend from upon which the project

object depends between the local repository and the master repository.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic learning system comprises a

master repository that stores globally-available learning objects and a local repository that stores

locally-available learning objects, and the method further comprises:

copying the version of the first object from the master repository to the local repository

without copying the project object to the local repository; and

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resolving dependencies associated with the version of the first object in accordance with a predefined rule.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the version of the first object depends on the second object, and resolving comprises making the version of the first object depend on a most current version of the second object in the local repository.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic learning system comprises a master repository that stores globally-available learning objects and a local repository that stores locally-available learning objects, and the method further comprises:

copying the project object, the version of the first object, and the version of the second object from the master repository to the local repository;

creating a second version of the first object; and

updating the <u>version</u> dependency data in the project object to reference the second version of the first object.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second objects stores information about a dependent object.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the information comprises an identity of the dependent object.

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13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic learning system comprises a master repository that stores globally-available learning objects and a local repository that stores locally-available learning objects, and the method further comprises:

copying the version of the first object from the master repository to the local repository without copying the project object to the local repository; and

resolving dependencies associated with the version of the first object in favor of current versions of objects on which the first object depends.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for use in an electronic learning system that stores information as learning objects, the computer program product being tangibly embodied in an information carrier, the computer program product being operable to cause a ~~machine~~ <u>one or more machines</u> to:

designate a target learning object as a project object; <u>and</u>

store <u>version</u> dependency data in the project object, the <u>version</u> dependency data identifying at least a version of a first object ~~that depends directly from~~ <u>upon which</u> the project object <u>directly depends</u>, and a version of a second object ~~that depends indirectly from~~ <u>upon which</u> the project object <u>indirectly depends</u>.

15. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the version of the ~~second~~ <u>first</u> object depends ~~from~~ <u>on</u> the version of the ~~first~~ <u>second</u> object.

16. (Original) The computer program product of claim 14, wherein designating comprises storing data in the project object that indicates that the target learning object is the project object.

17. (Original) The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the target learning object comprises a portal to other learning objects in the electronic learning system.

18. (Original) The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the other learning objects define a course offered via the electronic learning system.

19. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 14 7, wherein the target learning object comprises a glossary of a course.

20. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the electronic learning system comprises a master repository that stores globally-available learning objects and a local repository that stores locally-available learning objects, and the computer program product further comprises instructions operable to cause the machine one or more machines to:

identify learning objects that depend from upon which the project object depends;

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move the project object and learning objects ~~that depend from~~ upon which the project

object depends between the local repository and the master repository.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the

electronic learning system comprises a master repository that stores globally-available learning

objects and a local repository that stores locally-available learning objects, and the computer

program product further comprises instructions operable to cause the ~~machine~~ one or more

machines to:

copy the version of the first object from the master repository to the local repository

without copying the project object to the local repository; and

resolve dependencies associated with the version of the first object in accordance with a

predefined rule.

22. (Original) The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the version of the

first object depends on the second object, and resolving comprises making the version of the first

object depend on a most current version of the second object in the local repository.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the

electronic learning system comprises a master repository that stores globally-available learning

objects and a local repository that stores locally-available learning objects, and the computer

program product further comprises instructions operable to cause the ~~machine~~ one or more

machines to:

copy the project object, the version of the first object, and the version of the second

object from the master repository to the local repository;

create a second version of the first object; and

update the version dependency data in the project object to reference the second version

of the first object.

24. (Original) The computer program product of claim 14, wherein at least one of the

first and second objects stores information about a dependent object.

25. (Original) The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the information

comprises an identity of the dependent object.

26. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the

electronic learning system comprises a master repository that stores globally-available learning

objects and a local repository that stores locally-available learning objects, and the computer

program product further comprises instructions to cause the one or more machines to:

copy the version of the first object from the master repository to the local repository

without copying the project object to the local repository; and

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resolve dependencies associated with the version of the first object in favor of current versions of objects on which the first object depends.

27. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the version of the first object and the version of the second object store object dependency data but not version dependency data, wherein the object dependency data for the version of the first object identifies one or more first learning objects upon which the version of the first object depends but does not identify versions of the one or more first learning objects, and wherein object dependency data for the version of the second object identifies one or more second learning objects upon which the version of the second object depends but does not identify versions of the one or more second learning objects.

28. (New) The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the version of the first object and the version of the second object store object dependency data but not version dependency data, wherein the object dependency data for the version of the first object identifies one or more first learning objects upon which the version of the first object depends but does not identify versions of the one or more first learning objects, and wherein object dependency data for the version of the second object identifies one or more second learning objects upon which the version of the second object depends but does not identify versions of the one or more second learning objects.